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KAS-192

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

T. ISOBE et al

Serial No. 10/676,020

Group Art Unit: 1743

Filed: October 2, 2003

For: AUTOMATIC ANALYZER

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)
UNDER § 1.97 AND § 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop DD
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

1. This IDS should be considered:

(a) when filed within three months of the filing date of the present application, or within three months of the filing date of the National Stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs last;

(b) when filed before the mailing date of either a Final Rejection under § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311, whichever occurs first and when 1(a) does not apply. For this purpose, there is included herein either a certification in section 4 below (included when indicated by a marked box), or a fee of \$180.00 (a Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed, or if not see section 5 below);

(c) when filed prior to the payment of the Issue Fee, when 1(a)-(b) do not apply, and when a certification is included in section 4 below (included when indicated by a marked box); then the Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) and request(s) consideration of this IDS, and provided herewith is

a fee of \$180.00 (a Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the petition fee, or if not see section 5 below).

2. When 1(a)-(c) do not apply, then it is requested that this IDS be placed in the file.

3. Listing of the information submitted is on the attached Form PTO-1449, which forms a part of this IDS. A copy of each listed document is enclosed.

4. The undersigned hereby states:

(a) that each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, as indicated on the copy of the communication submitted herewith, which communication was dated not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or

(b) that no item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

5. If a fee or additional fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee or additional fee that may be required and credit any excess to Deposit Account No. 50-1417.

6. No explanation of relevancy is being provided for the documents because each is either in the English language or its relevance is as stated in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application.

7. If the PTO determines that part(s) of the required content is inadvertently omitted, then it is requested that

the Applicant(s) be given additional time and specific identification of such omission(s) to enable full compliance.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: June 15, 2004

FORM PTO-1449 (REV. 7-80)	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO. KAS-192	SERIAL NO. 10/676,020
LIST OF DOCUMENTS CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)		APPLICANT T. ISOBE et al	
		FILING DATE October 2, 2003	GROUP 1743

JUN 15 2004

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

* EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE (If Appropriate)
	AA	4,785,677	11/22/88	Higo			
	AB	5,240,679	08/31/93	Stettler			
	AC	4,974,457	12/04/90	Angst et al			
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
✓	AL	WO 94/02826	02/03/94	PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
✓	AM	WO 89/12829	12/28/89	PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
✓	AN	11-183484	07/09/99	Japan (w/ English Abstract)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AO						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AP						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AR		
	AS		
	AT		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.